

**REPRESENTATIVE DRIEHAUS ANNOUNCES HOUSE REAUTHORIZATION OF JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER COMPETITIVE ENGINE PROGRAM**

***Rep. Driehaus Successfully Opposes Effort to Eliminate Program***

**WASHINGTON, DC**—Representative Steve Driehaus today announced that the House of Representatives has authorized \$485 million for the Joint Strike Fighter Competitive Engine Program. The reauthorization for the program was included in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2011.

Representative Driehaus led the fight in the House to keep the Competitive Engine Program intact, despite efforts to eliminate the program. An amendment that would have stripped away the program's authorization was defeated last night by a decisive bipartisan majority.

"We have invested billions in a competitive engine for the Joint Strike Fighter, because we know that competition leads to lower costs and a higher quality product for our armed forces. At the same time, the Joint Strike Fighter will eventually comprise 95 percent of our tactical fighter fleet, and relying on a single engine could pose a significant threat to our military readiness," said Rep. Driehaus. "Supporting this Competitive Engine Program is the right thing to do for our men and women in uniform and for American taxpayers, and I will continue to oppose any effort to eliminate this program."

During his time in Congress, Rep. Driehaus has been a vocal advocate for the Joint Strike Fighter Competitive Engine Program. Earlier this week, Rep. Driehaus testified before the House Rules Committee in support of competitive procurement and the continued authorization of the Competitive Engine Program. Last year, he worked to secure \$465 million for the program in FY 2010.

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